GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:16
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2005
LOW COST HOUSING SCHEMES
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is considering to help the States on low cost housing schemes;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government proposes to disburse and monitor the funds meant for housing for all schemes for the economically weaker sections and the lower income groups;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government estimates that around 22.4 million houses will be needed to keep up with the PM`s `Shanghai vision` for 35 metros; and

(e) if so, the steps the Union Government proposes to take in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA)

(a)to(e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.
TATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.16 FOR 1.3.2005 REGARDING LOW COST HOUSING SCHEMES.

(a)to(c): A Centrally Sponsored scheme called Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) is being implemented w.e.f. 2.12.2001 in urban areas of all States/UTs. The Scheme has the primary objective to facilitate construction and upgradation of dwelling units for slum dwellers living below poverty line including Economically Weaker Sections and to provide healthy and enabling urban environment through community toilets. 50% of the project cost subject to the unit cost ceiling (Rs. 60,000/- for Mega Cities; Rs.50,000/- for metropolitan cities and Rs.40,000/- for other cities) is released as Central subsidy and the balance amount is arranged by the concerned State Govts. either from their own budget provisions or by taking loan from HUDCO, contribution from beneficiaries etc. There is a provision of State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) to monitor the implementation of VAMBAY.

Further, Two Million Housing Programme is under operation since 1998-1999 which envisages to facilitate construction of 20 lakh additional units every year mainly for the Economically weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG). Out of which 7 lakh is taken up for construction in Urban areas and 13 lakh houses is taken up for construction in Rural areas. In Urban areas, loan for construction of houses is given by Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO), Housing Finance Institutions/Banks and Cooperative Sector.

(d)&(e): The Working Group of the Planning Commission on Urban Housing for the 10th Plan 2002-2007 has estimated that 22.44 million dwelling units would be required by the end of the 10th Plan by way of addition/upgradation. In order to facilitate construction of adequate housing facilities, particularly for Economically weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG), the Government launched the Two Million Housing Programme in 1998-1999. VAMBAY is also being implemented since 2001 to provide houses for the Below Poverty Line Population as well as Economically Weaker Sections.